

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of conditionally blocking reproduction of content items on a reproduction device, the method comprising:

[[-]] obtaining a content reference identifier for a particular content item to be blocked,

checking periodically for a content item corresponding to the particular content reference identifier until the content item is scheduled to become available, and

[[-]] resolving the content reference identifier into a locator indicating availability of the particular content item, and

[[-]] blocking the reproduction device for the indicated availability.

2. (Currently amended) A The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the content items are broadcast and the reproduction device

is arranged to receive broadcast content items, wherein the locator indicates a scheduled broadcast of the particular content item at a specific time on a specific channel, and wherein the reproduction device is blocked for reproduction for the specific time and channel.

3. (Currently amended) A-The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the content items reside on a server available for transfer on a request from the reproduction device, wherein the locator indicates the availability of the content item at the server during a specific period of time, and wherein the reproduction device is blocked for retrieval of the content item from the server for the specific period of time.

4. (Currently amended) A-The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein blocking of the reproduction device is reversed by a user with a proper authorization.

5. (Currently amended) A-The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the proper authorization is determined by at least one of:

entry of a password, entry of a smart card, recognition of a finger print, and voice recognition.

6. (Currently amended) A-The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein obtaining the content reference identifier of the particular item includes:

[[-]] selecting from an external location an advisory list containing at least a reference to the particular content item, and
[[-]] receiving content reference identifiers for the content items referred to on the list.

7. (Currently amended) A-The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein obtaining the content reference identifier of the particular item includes:

[[-]] receiving a signal representing a further content item and containing the content reference identifier,
[[-]] during reproduction of the further content item enabling a user to indicate storing the content reference identifier,
[[-]] upon the user so indicating, storing the content reference identifier.

8. (Currently amended) A method of providing blocking information for conditionally blocking reproduction of content items on a reproduction device, the method comprising:

[[-]] preparing an advisory list containing a reference to a particular content item and containing a content reference identifier for that particular content item, and

[[-]] making the advisory list available for transfer to and use in the reproduction device for

checking periodically for a content item corresponding to the particular content reference identifier until the content item is scheduled to become available, and based upon the checking

[[-]] resolving the content reference identifier into a locator indicating availability of the particular content item, and

[[-]] blocking the reproduction device for the indicated availability.

9. (Currently amended) A The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the advisory list is stored on a server, and wherein a user is enabled for selecting the list for transfer to the reproduction

device.

10. (Currently amended) A The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the advisory list is broadcast to the reproduction device and wherein the user is enabled to indicate storing the advisory list in the reproduction device.

11. (Currently amended) A reproduction device for conditionally blocking reproduction of content items, the device comprising:

[[-]] obtaining means for obtaining a content reference

identifier for a particular content item to be blocked,

checking means for periodically checking for a content item corresponding to the particular content reference identifier until the content item is scheduled to become available,

[[-]] receiving means for receiving the result of resolving the content reference identifier into a locator indicating availability of the particular content item, and

[[-]] blocking means for blocking the reproduction device for the indicated availability, based upon the results of the checking.

12. (Currently amended) ~~A~~-The reproduction device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the reproduction device comprises resolution means for resolving the content reference identifier into the locator and wherein the receiving means are arranged to receive the result from the resolution means.

13. (Currently amended) A set-top box for reproducing content items, the set-top box comprising:

{[-]} a receiver for receiving the content items, and

{[-]} a reproduction device for conditionally blocking reproduction of one or more content items ~~as claimed in claim 11~~, the reproduction device comprising:

an obtaining device configured to obtain a content reference identifier for the one or more content items to be blocked,

a checking device configured to periodically check for the one or more content items corresponding to the content reference identifier until the one or more content items are scheduled to become available, the receiver being configured to receive the result of resolving the content reference identifier into a locator indicating availability of the one or more content items, and

a blocking device configured to block the reproduction device for the indicated availability, based upon the results of the checking.

14. (Currently amended) A television set for reproducing content items, the television set comprising:

[[-]] a receiver for receiving the content items,

[[-]] a reproduction device for conditionally blocking reproduction of one or more content items ~~as claimed in claim 11~~, the reproduction device comprising:

an obtaining device configured to obtain a content reference identifier for the one or more content items to be blocked,

a checking device configured to periodically check for the one or more content items corresponding to the content reference identifier until the one or more content items are scheduled to become available, the receiver being configured to receive the result of resolving the content reference identifier into a locator indicating availability of the one or more content items,

a blocking device configured to block the reproduction device for the indicated availability, based upon the results of the checking, and

[[-]] a display for displaying ~~the a~~ content items not blocked by the reproduction device.

15. (Currently amended) A video recorder for storing and reproducing content items comprising:

[[-]] a receiver for receiving the content items,

[[-]] a reproduction device for indicating conditionally

blocking of reproduction of one or more content items ~~as claimed in claim 11,~~ , the reproduction device comprising:

an obtaining device configured to obtain a content reference identifier for the one or more content items to be blocked,
a checking device configured to periodically check for the one or more content items corresponding to the content reference identifier until the one or more content items are scheduled to become available, the receiver being configured to receive the result of resolving the content reference identifier into a locator indicating availability of the one or more content items,

a blocking device configured to block the reproduction device for the indicated availability, based upon the results of the checking

[[-]] storing means for storing the content items on a storage medium, and

[[-]] retrieving means for retrieving the content items from the storage medium if the content items are not blocked.

16. (Currently amended) A system for providing blocking information for conditionally blocking reproduction of content items on a reproduction device, the system comprising:

[[-]] preparation means for preparing an advisory list containing a reference to a particular content item and containing a content reference identifier for that particular content item, and

[[-]] managing means for making the advisory list available for transfer to and use in the reproduction device for

checking periodically for a content item corresponding to the content reference identifier until the content item is scheduled to become available, and based upon the checking

[[-]] resolving the content reference identifier into a locator indicating availability of the particular content item, and

[[-]] blocking the reproduction device for the indicated availability.